

Recognitions at March 2008 State Board Meeting

- **One of America's Best High Schools**

State Superintendent of Education Jim Rex and State Board of Education member Cindy Clark (right) congratulate Carol Tempel, interim principal of Charleston County's Academic Magnet High School, after the school was named one of the Top 100 "gold" schools in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine. The ranking of America's best high schools was based on how well students score on state reading and math tests, as well as participation and achievement in challenging Advanced Placement courses. The mission of the Academic Magnet High School is to challenge each student, teacher, and parent with the high expectations of a rigorous curriculum. As a small high school of approximately 500 students, students receive a more personalized education and high school experience. All courses are taught at the honors or advanced placement level. Many members of the faculty are adjunct professors at local colleges and universities. Academic Magnet students conduct independent studies and year-long research projects, participate in 17 varsity sports activities, publish in academic and professional journals, and complete a 90-hour commitment of community service in order to graduate. The *U.S. News and World Report* rankings examined 18,000 public high schools in 40 states.

